
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

NOTICE OF MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2021

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

PLACE: House Lounge - State House

SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

House Resolution No. [5248](#)

BY Serpa

ENTITLED, HOUSE RESOLUTION REINSTATING THE LIFE OF AND EXTENDING THE REPORTING AND EXPIRATION DATES OF THE SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE STUDY COMMISSION TO EXAMINE AND RECOMMEND GUIDELINES FOR STEP THERAPY PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROTOCOLS {LC1155/1} (Reinstates the life, and extends the reporting and expiration dates of the Commission to Examine and Recommend Guidelines for Step Therapy Prescription Drug Protocols from April 28, 2020 to April 6, 2021, and expires on June 6, 2021.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for consideration

SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

House Bill No. [5041](#)

BY Corvese

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS {LC644/1} (Requires drug manufactures to establish fund and manage state approved drug take back programs, free of charge to the consumer and pharmacy.)

01/21/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5066](#)

BY McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND HOSPITALS -- GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH {LC190/1} (Increases the membership of the governor's council on behavioral health from thirty-one (31) to thirty-two (32) members by adding the president of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island or a designee.)

01/22/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

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02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5072](#)

BY McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCESSIBLE RESIDENCE MODIFICATIONS {LC184/1} (Allows health insurance plans to provide coverage for accessible residence modifications determined to be medically necessary.)

01/22/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.
02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5081](#)

BY McNamara

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- ESTABLISHING THE RHODE ISLAND RARE DISEASE MEDICATION ACCESSIBILITY, AFFORDABILITY, AND REINSURANCE ACT {LC159/1} (Provides for establishment of the rare disease medication reinsurance program to be funded by insurer contributions that would be administered by the secretary of health and human services based on recommendations from a 15 member advisory council.)

01/22/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.
02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/05/2021 Committee postponed at request of sponsor
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5151](#)

BY Morales, McGaw, Alzate, Ackerman, McNamara, Hull, Lombardi, Speakman, Felix, Fogarty

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- RHODE ISLAND FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS ACT {LC246/1} (Limits insured persons insulin costs to \$25 per month.)

01/25/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.
02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5154](#)

BY Bennett

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- THE HEALING ART OF ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE {LC95/1} (Changes title of chapter 37.2 of title 5 and throughout, replacing the words "Oriental medicine" with "Chinese medicine". Allows individuals who are otherwise certified, to practice acupuncture & Chinese medicine using Chinese medical diagnostic methods.)

01/25/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5189](#)

BY McEntee, Caldwell, Donovan, O'Brien

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES {LC650/1} (Amends the definition of the practice of pharmacy to include the authority to prescribe drugs and devices. The act also provides the conditions for which a pharmacist may prescribe an indicated drug or device.)

01/27/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5191](#)

BY Serpa, Bennett, Phillips, Lima

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINE {LC785/1} (Prohibits the board of medical licensure and discipline from requiring specialty board certification as a condition of licensure.)

01/27/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5192](#)

BY Bennett, Blazejewski

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PHYSICAL THERAPY COPAY {LC135/1} (Limits copays, coinsurance or office deductible for services of a physical therapist to the amount authorized for the services of a primary care physician or osteopath.)

01/27/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

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02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5196](#)

(by request)

BY Kennedy, Azzinaro, Bennett, Vella-Wilkinson, Solomon, Diaz

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS {LC335/1} (Limits health insurance carriers that provide coverage for prescription insulin drugs used to treat diabetes to fifty (\$50) dollars for a copayment for a thirty (30) day supply of medically necessary insulin.)

01/27/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.
02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5198](#)

BY Bennett

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHYSICAL THERAPISTS {LC111/1} (Includes in the practice of physical therapy the ordering of diagnostic imaging (x-ray imaging) to be performed by other health care professionals.)

01/27/2021 Introduced, referred to House H.E.W.
02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5240](#)

BY Diaz, McNamara, Slater, Vella-Wilkinson, Perez, Cassar, Alzate, Felix, Biah, Ajello

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS - PHARMACIES {LC944/1} (Increases the state board of pharmacy from nine (9) to eleven (11) members by adding two (2) pharmacy technicians.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5241](#)

BY Vella-Wilkinson, Williams, Ajello, Noret, Kazarian, Ackerman, Ruggiero

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES {LC790/1} (Authorizes a pharmacist to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives, provided that the pharmacist has completed a training program approved by the state board of pharmacy.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

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02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5242](#)

BY Edwards, Caldwell

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OPIOID ALTERNATIVES {LC724/1} (DOH to develop and publish opioid alternative pamphlet.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5245](#)

BY Edwards, Caldwell, Kazarian, Slater, Potter, Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - HARM REDUCTION CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND PILOT PROGRAM {LC715/1} (Creates pilot program to establish harm reduction centers where use of pre-obtained controlled substances may occur under supervision of health care professionals)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5246](#)

BY Diaz, McNamara, Slater, Vella-Wilkinson, Perez, McLaughlin, Biah, Tobon

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - PUBLIC HEALTH AND WORKPLACE SAFETY ACT {LC945/1} (Provides that any law or regulation which protects a person from exposure to second hand smoke would also provide protection from exposure to second-hand marijuana smoke, regardless of how the smoke was generated.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services
02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration
02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study
02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5247](#)

BY Amore, Kazarian

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO FOOD AND DRUGS -- UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT {LC175/1} (Excludes chronic intractable pain from the definition of acute pain management. Prescribes new guidelines for treatment based upon 2016 CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

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02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5251](#)

BY Diaz, Slater, Lombardi, Craven, Casey, Felix, Biah, Ajello, Fogarty, Kislak

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE -- PRESCRIPTIONS {LC966/1} (Limits health insurance carriers that provide coverage for prescription insulin drugs used to treat diabetes to fifty (\$50) dollars copayment for a thirty (30) day supply of medically necessary insulin.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

House Bill No. [5272](#)

BY Diaz, Perez, Williams, Cassar, McLaughlin, Biah, Morales

ENTITLED, AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --

PSYCHOLOGISTS {LC1011/1} (Includes licensed school psychologists under the provisions of the general laws governing the regulations of psychologists.)

01/29/2021 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

02/05/2021 Committee transferred to House Health & Human Services

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

02/12/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

The State House remains closed to in-person testimony.

The meeting will be televised on Capitol Television, which can be seen on Cox Channels 15, and 61, in high definition on Cox Channel 1061, on Full Channel on Channel 15 and on Channel 34 by Verizon subscribers.

It will also be live streamed at <http://rilegislature.gov/CapTV/Pages/default.aspx>.

Both verbal and written testimony are welcome.

VERBAL TESTIMONY

Individuals interested in providing verbal testimony, send your name, phone number, bill number and position on legislation to: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov

DEADLINE: Requests for verbal testimony must be submitted via the link, by 11:00 AM on Tuesday, February 23, 2021.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Written testimony should be submitted to: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov

Indicate your name, bill number, and viewpoint (for/against/neither) at top of message.

DEADLINE: In order for materials to be distributed to members and posted to the General Assembly website prior to the hearing, written testimony must be submitted no later than two (2) hours prior to the posted meeting time. All testimony received after deadline will be sent to committee members and posted to the website -- within 24 hours. For faster processing, it is recommended that testimony is submitted as a PDF file.

Testimony will be posted on the General Assembly website,
[http://www.rilegislature.gov/Special/comdoc/Pages/ HHHS.aspx](http://www.rilegislature.gov/Special/comdoc/Pages/HHHS.aspx).

Lisa Cataldi
Committee Clerk
222-2296

HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov

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